



## **BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION BOARD MINUTES**

September 17, 2010

Present:

Bill Williams, Chairman

E J Miller, Member

Amy Huston, Coordinator

Sharon Rose, Staff Kim Umphres, Staff

Tena O'Brien, County Clerk

Christine Southard, County Clerk's Office

Kris James, County Clerk's Office LeRoy Roberts, BCDCC, Bella Vista

Tom Sissom, Press

The media was notified and Tom Sissom of the Benton county Daily Record attended.

Chairman Bill Williams called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

Williams stated that the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Amy Huston presented an order for polling location #80. It was closed due to loosing all polling workers in May, 2010. The statue was incorrectly written on the order to reflect a temporary instead of a permanent change. Huston had a permanent order to move #80 to #78 and commissioners signed.

Huston stated early voting for the November election would be in Bella Vista and other locations to be determined later. Huston also presented an amended order for the election officials for Tuesday, September 21 election due to a change in officials. Williams stated to E J Miller that he would discuss in an executive session the details. He was advised by Human Resources that this is a confidential matter and temporary employees are treated with the same confidentially. This protects their privacy. Tom Sissom stated an executive session is the only way to discuss the situation. Miller was concerned that all poll workers at this precinct be trained on the Ivo's. Huston stated that training was taking place that afternoon.

Miller questioned why the State deducted monies from their billing. The Election Commission office has asked the State to explain the deductions. A letter from the State was received but does not go into detail about the deductions. Miller stated the State reduced the part-time help, supplies and other items. Williams contacted the County Attorney's office, George Smith, who was out until the week of September 20<sup>th</sup>. Upon his return, Williams will discuss the billing and letter with him and bring that matter back to the commission.

Huston stated the September 21, 2010 School Election and NWACC Election is on schedule. A representative, Stacy, from the Department of Information Systems will be here to assist the Election Commission Office for technical assistance.

Huston stated the November General Election is on schedule and on time.

Huston stated the Electronic Poll Book pilot is on schedule and the four (4) sheriffs' have been contacted. Tena O'Brien stated an estimated cost of \$8500. for staff and supplies in preparing for county wide elections.

Williams stated that Siloam Springs contacted the commission office about their billing. They explained they do not have the monies in their budget. Williams advised them the policy was to make an appeal and give reasons why they should not be subject to the full amount due. Williams explained to them the G&A. They did understand but the monies are not in their budget. The City of Siloam Springs is going to write a letter to the Election Commission to reduce their billing to \$5000.

Williams also stated Lowell wants to know their G&A for next year's budget. Williams suggested writing a letter to each municipalities of what their budget need may be for the elections in the coming year. Williams stated he would write this letter. Williams said our estimate of \$10,000 was based on building rental but if the commission office moves to the health department building our G&A would reduce greatly because of that move. We would no longer be required to pay rent. The move would probably be within the first six (6) months of 2011.

Williams stated he had plans to go to Little Rock to visit with the Secretary of State's Office and Arkansas County Election Commission to discuss changing the time of voting for the city administration form of government. The City of Siloam Springs bill was so large because they could not by law put their primary into the general primary election in the spring. Williams will also talk about Electronic Poll Books to bring funding for that project.

Next meeting is schedule for September 21, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Robert C. Balfe, Secretary

Prepared by Sharon Rose, Benton County Election Commission staff

CO & PROBATE CLER

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